order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness, foreign investments and employment generation and to update the provision, a need has .been felt to make amendments in certain labour laws. Accordingly, steps have been initiated to amend Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and a Bill to this effect is likely to be introduced in the current Session of Parliament. As regards the amendment to the Contract Labour Act, the same has been discussed in detail by a Group of Ministers (GOM) on Labour Reforms. The GOM is to further deliberate on this issue. The Government has also set up the Second National Commission on labour with a view to suggest rationalization of existing laws relating to labour in the organised sector and to suggest an umbrella legislation for ensuring the minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector. The Commission is expected to submit its report by 15.06.2002.

Depositing of Provident Fund by Companies

†4609. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI.
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have detected some irregularities being committed by the companies in different States by not depositing the amount of their share in the Provident Funds of their employees well in time.

(b) if so, the r.ames of those erring companies which are not depositing the amount of their shares in the Provident Funds of their employees well in time in each State; and

(c) the financial loss suffered by the employees in each State due to these irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Some of the establishments have defaulted in the payment of the statutory Provident Fund dues throughout the country. As on 31.3.2002, the total default was

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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Rs. 1,336 crores out of which 77.32% is unrealizable being the amount locked up in court stays and establishments registered with BIFR, etc. Wherever any default is detected, all the actions as per law are taken against the defaulting establishments. Because of the persistent efforts of the Employees Provident Fund Organization, an amount of Rs. 858 crore was collected during the year 2001-2002.

Remittance of EPF contribution to employees' account

4610. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 60 per cent of the EPF money deducted at source by the employer along with the matching contributions is not being remitted to the member's EPF account and lakhs of employees are not being issued contribution slips;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard at the end of 31st March, 2001 and 31st March, 2002; and

(c) what measures are being taken to safeguard workers' interests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A comparative position of outstanding Provident Fund dues accumulated over the last 50 years and the corpus as on 31st March, 2001 and 31st March, 2002 is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Realisable Arrears	Total Unrealisable Arrears	Total Arrears	Total Corpus of EPFO
2000-2001	239	945	1,184	90,404
2001-2002	303	1,033	1,336	1,02,163 -

Unrealisable arrears is the amount of money which is locked up due to stay granted by various courts and for establishments, registered with BIFR and hence recovery action cannot be taken against such amount. Therefore, the percentage of amount in arrears